

Attorney Docket: 173/50483  
PATENT

10/18/02  
(NE)

T.W.  
10-26-02

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: MICHAEL PITTROFF ET AL.  
Serial No.: 09/988,820 Group Art Unit: 1724  
Filed: NOVEMBER 20, 2001 Examiner: Robert Spitzer  
Title: ISOLATION OF SF<sub>6</sub> FROM INSULATING GASES IN GAS-  
INSULATED LINES

AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated July 29, 2002, please amend the  
above-identified application as follows.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claim 2 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please amend claim 1 as follows:

(A copy of the marked-up version of amended claim 1 is attached to this  
Amendment.)

1. (Amended) A process for separating a mixture of SF<sub>6</sub> and N<sub>2</sub>, the  
SF<sub>6</sub>/N<sub>2</sub> mixture being obtained from a gas insulated line, comprising introducing  
the mixture to a mobile membrane separator comprising at least one separating  
membrane which preferentially passes N<sub>2</sub> to obtain an SF<sub>6</sub> enriched retentate  
and a N<sub>2</sub> enriched permeate, wherein said mixture has an initial SF<sub>6</sub> content of  
from 5 to 50 volume-%, said at least one membrane comprises a polymer matrix

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